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Big Jam at Bridge

The long-held traffic jam at Rosslyn Circle and Key Bridge finally came this morning.

"I've never seen it so bad," Arlington Police Chief J. W. Summer said, after the jam backed up to Oronoke Road on both Lee Highway and Wilson Boulevard.

Enough police were on hand to handle a riot—and they at most had one.

MAD

"Folks were so mad I'd have been scared to get out there and direct traffic with out a gun," said Lieut. R. V. Crack.

District and Arlington officials held a pow-wow at the scene and District Engineer Commissioner A. C. Welling announced "We'll have police and traffic engineers out here tonight to make adjustments as necessary."

The newly opened CIA extension of the George Washington Parkway caused the trouble, which started Tuesday afternoon but tapered off yesterday because most people stayed clear of Key Bridge.

Yesterday afternoon Gen. Welling and other engineers blocked off one lane on the circle, reserving it for the Parkway loop. But that left only two lanes to handle the six lanes of traffic coming off Lynn and Moore streets and Lee Highway this morning.

"We knew it would back up, but didn't know how far," Gen. Welling said.

The jam began around 7:15. Gen. Welling removed the reserved lane at 8, and the peak was over by 8:45, about 15 minutes later than usual.

...have engineers ... physical ... this attempt to ... out the flow of traffic ... straighten out these curves," he said.

Part of the D. C. Transit plan would have to be torn up and other approaches changed, he indicated.

The new Parkway section runs from ... 5.5 miles to the ... a contract has been let to extend it to hook up with the projected Outer Loop highway near Great Falls.

Meanwhile, there is additional construction on Route 123, which "shortly" will absorb traffic coming off the new highway bound for McLean, Tyson's Corners and Vienna.

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